

## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

An inflatable, elastic fixation device is provided for adjustable orthopedic fixation. The device is adapted for fastening onto a section of a body, to a desired clearance; and inflating to desired levels of stiffness and tightness. Adjustments  
5 may be made when the device is first applied, as well as with time and with activity. The fixation device may be removed for washing or treatment and reapplied. When inflated, the device is rigid, and operative as a structural element for redistributing loads to lessen a pressure on the section of body or to prevent it.